

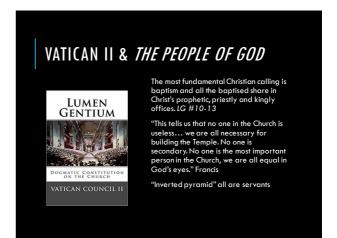
## CHANGES AT VATICAN II

Recovery of the centrality of baptism – all sharing in Christ's royal priesthood

Trinity

Holy Spirit

People of God - Pilgrim Church



### "LAY" — "NON-CLERICAL"?

Revelation – personal encounter with God – sensus fidei

Sense or instinct for God

"The sensus fidei prevents a rigid separation between an Ecclesia docens and an Ecclesia discens, since the flock likewise has an instinctive ability to discern the new ways that the Lord is revealing to the Church."



TWO SYNODS ON THE FAMILY

Consult the people

Instructing the Bishops to speak up, *parrhesia* 

Even today he wants to encourage open discussion and refuses to silence dissent

"Open and fraternal debate makes theological and pastoral thought grow.... That doesn't frighten me. What's more, I look for it."

Because he believes that in listening to one another we are listening to the Spirit

### COMMUNAL MODEL OF MAGISTERIUM

All belong to the People of God

All participate in teaching and learning

People express their faith in liturgy, daily living, in their sharing

The bishops affirm this faith, and if the need be give a doctrinal teaching or legislate

Faithful engage this new teaching with their sense of the faith

Cycle begins again



All learn and teach

All respect, listen with a spirit of parrhesia

Clericalism

taking too much responsibility

Failing to notice the talents and charisms of the faithful

Synodality

"A synodal Church is a Church which listens, which realizes that listening "is more than simply hearing". It is a mutual listening in which everyone has something to learn. The faithful people, the college of bishops, the Bishop of Rome: all listening to each other, and all listening to the Holy Spirit, the "Spirit of truth" (Jn 14:17), in order to know what he "says to the Churches" (Rev2:7)."



# THIS WILL REQUIRE NEW SKILLS, STRUCTURES AND CULTURE

New more adult level of responsibility for all: bishops, priests and people

Structures for consultation

Learning to speak

Learning to listen

Learning to discern

#### WHY EVEN MORE DISCERNMENT?

Takes time and discussion to know what is deep in our hearts

Even more prayer and time to know what the **Spirit** is leading us towards

Listen to what the Spirit is saying – among the many, varied strongly held and sometimes contradictory opinions

Need bold but humble and generous hearts to speak and also listen attentively, trusting the intentions of others  $\,$ 

Needs to be of the Spirit to be attractive, life-giving and lasting

If we can develop these habits among the people of God we will have achieved a new culture in ghe church, irrespective of the other good things we may achieve at the Plenary Council.

